

REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, January 20. 1711.

I Am upon considering whether the present War cannot be carry'd on with more Advantages, than it can be in Spain? — And I gave you an Instance of a Proposal, which I told you I had the Honour to lay before his late Majesty, at the beginning of this last War, for the sending a strong Fleet to the *Havana*, to seize that Port and the Island, in which it is Situate, and from thence to seize and to secure the Possession of, at least the Coast, if not, by Consequence the *Terra Firma* of the Empire of *Mexico*, and thereby entirely cut off the Spanish Commerce and the Return of their Plate Fleets, by the Immense Ri-

ches whereof, and by which only, both *France* and *Spain* have been enabled to Support this War.

I have taken the Liberty to own, that I have those Schemes still by me, nor am I so narrow in the Publick Good, but that if they be of Service, I am ready to Communicate them, to any that shall be likely to promote so Noble and still so Necessary a Design.

But there is yet another Step, which might have Employ'd the Immense Treasure, and the Armies that have been lost, in our Fruitless Attempts upon *Spain*; and which, if it had not Effectually answer'd in the Success

Success, tho' I see no Reason to doubt of that, yet would have miscarried, if it must have done so, more to the Weakning, Loss, and Prejudice of the Enemy, and less to ours — And this is Invading from the Ocean, the proper Dominions of France, and carrying the War that Way, into the Bowels of her Country.

I'll give you from History three Instances of the like of this, which was practis'd with Success, and one that miscarried — The first was that of *Scipio Africanus*, in the Time of the Roman Empire; *Hannibal* had Ravag'd Italy, beaten the Consuls at the Great Battle of *Capua*, where in a Total Overthrow of the Roman Army, with the Loss of 80000 Men, the Empire had sunk; had the Great *Hannibal* known how to Pursue, as well as to Conquer — *Scipio*, by a Counsel well digested, and on Substantial Reasons, leaves *Hannibal* in Italy to do his worst, and instead of Fighting him, Transports the Roman Army to Africa, and Attacks the *Carthaginians* at their own Door — The Story is too long to dwell upon; the Consequence is well known to all that can read *T. Livius* Roman History; the *Carthaginians* are beaten, frightened, call *Hannibal* Home, and at last, their City is taken, destroy'd, and the very Name of them Rooted off from the Earth.

It come nearer yet, that Great General, *Maurice de Nassau* of the Family of Orange, Son of the first *William Henry*, Founder of the Dutch Common Wealth — Having after the Murder of his Father at *Dolph*, taken upon him the Conduct of the War against Spain, and being sore press'd by the Spaniards, under the Arch-Duke *Albert*, and the Great *Spinola*, resolving to remove the Seat of the War from the Frontiers of *Holland*, which Ruip'd their Commerce, and made them uneasie — And withal, knowing that to carry the War into the Enemies Country, would plach them sore, and cause great part of it to be carry'd on at the Enemies Expence — On a suddain, an incredible Number of Ships are gotten ready, and the mightiest Preparations made for an Expedition by

Sea, that ever was heard of — The *Spaniards* mock'd, and said the *Dutch* were going to Ship themselves away to the *East Indies* — Others ask'd if they were going to fetch *Spain* Home, and join it to *Holland*; but no Man guess'd at the Design: When the Prince with wondrous Expedition Ship'd his whole Army, put to Sea, and in a short Voyage of two Days Sail, Landed all his Troops near *Newport* in *Flanders*: Immediately the *Spaniards* Fath'rabout, the Dutch Frontiers were left free, and the War was remov'd into the Enemies Country; This drove the Arch-Duke to the Necessity of a Battle, which was call'd the Battle of *Newport*, in which he was entirely Overthrown, his Cannon and Baggage taken, *Spinola* and *Mendoza* made Prisoners, and 8000 Men kill'd on the Spot; nor did the War ever come back to the Dutch Doors again.

A Third Instance of this, was practis'd by the King himself, then Prince of Orange, in the Year 1674, or thereabouts — The King of *France* had brok'n in upon the *Netherlands* in a most surprizing manner, had taken more Towns and Cities, than he had been Days in the Country; had the whole Province of *Utrecht* in Possession, all the Country of *Over-Issell*, and in short, was not far off *Amsterdam* — The Prince having, after the Fate of the *Demits* was determin'd by the *Mob*, recover'd his Right, been restor'd to the *Stadt-Holdership*, and Command of the Army, apply'd himself to the War; took *Nkerk*, gave a Check to the Duke of *Luxembourg* in the Province of *Utrecht*, and oblig'd the *French* to a little Retreat — On a suddain, without the least appearance of it, he leaves his Country as it were, to the *Infamy* of the Enemy, leaves them in the Possession of the Heart of the Provinces, and Marches up into *Germany*, joins the Imperial Army under *Monteacutti* and sets down before *Born*; this Step amaz'd the whole World, Strangers laugh'd at it, the *Dutch* were in a Fright at it, some among them said, the Prince was really run away with their Army; in short, no-body but the King of *France*

France understood it —— But as soon as ever Bonn, which held out but 12 Days, was taken, and the Imperial and Dutch Armies join'd again, the King of France, who had taken so many Towns, that 100000 Men would not Garrison them, saw his Error, he wanted these Men in the Field; the Viscount de Turenne retreated, not being able to act for want of Troops; and the Dutch were Masters of the Field; so he was forced to abandon those strong Towns as fast as he had taken them, having set Army enough to keep the Towns and keep the Field too; — That he would have been possest of Holland, and so lost France, for the Prince and the Imperial Army, advanced towards Maastricht, and gave out, they would pass the Maas, and enter Champaign; Thus in 20 Days the French quitted 42 Strong Fortify'd Towns, which it would have cost Twenty Years, and innumerable Numbers of Men, to have taken by Siege; and the Prince having done his Work Effectually, was back again Time enough in his own Country to finish its Deliverance, by driving them out of the last Town, viz; the Graue, by Force the same Year.

The Fourth Instance, and which I say miscarry'd, was the Spanish Invasion — The Reason of which, was Grounded upon the same true Politick Principle; Philip King of Spain finding the Dutch Powerfully Assisted by the Queen of England, and that could they reduce England, the Hollander's would fall of Course; resolv'd to turn his whole Strength against the Queen; to this purpose to their great Armada, they join'd

that of the Prince of Parma, coming over hither with 30000 Reserve Troops from Flanders; every one knows the Issue, nor is that any part of the Story; but all will allow the Project was just, and had succeeded, the States had indeed been undone.

I might have Inflanc'd also, the King of France's late Attempt upon Scotland, which had it Succeeded, would soon have convinc'd us, that it was built upon a much better Foundation, than most People, after it miscarry'd, would allow, but these are enough to satisfy us, that — an Effectual carrying an Army into France, is the only Way to make it fatal to the King of France, and Consequently to reduce him to the Necessity of Evacuating Spain, to procure his own Safety at Home — This the late King frequently Concerned, and once under the Conduct of that Treachery, whist he was always surrounded with, Attempted; where General Falmouth was lost, and some Hundreds of brave English Men kill'd and taken.

I shall, in my next, say something more plainly to this, and to the Opinion his late Majesty had of carrying on the War in Spain; I shall be glad if it shall tend to the Instruction of this Generation.

I cannot but think it will a Time to do his Majesty some Justice, with relation to the Treaty of Partition, which the World so long ago Exploded; whose happy Articles after so long a War, we are not yet arriv'd to, and I doubt shall not in a long Time more, be able to obtain.

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THE Author of this Paper having receiv'd many important Letters a long time, pressing him to go on with his so often promis'd Discourse upon Trade — Gives this Notice.

That having often Essay'd to carry on a continu'd Discourse upon Trade in this Paper, but been unavoidably prevented by the Fury of the Times, an unhappiness the Author did not foresee when this Work was undertaken —

And finding it impossible to have his Essay upon Trade publish'd in this Paper, in such an uninterrupted Manner as a Subject of that Consequence requires; some Gentlemen, who desire this Work to be carried on, have made a Proposal, for the Writing a REVIEW so he entirely taken up upon the Subject of Trade, with a Miscellany, or a part reserv'd to handle Particular Cases in Trade — And expressly condition'd not to meddle with Mat-

ers of State, Divisions of Parties, or any thing relating to the Affairs of Government, Civil or Ecclesiastick.

This Work is propos'd to be Subscrib'd by such Gentlemen as think fit to encourage it, 'till it may be able to support it self; in which the Author hopes he may please you all, and may have an opportunity to lay down the un-

pleasant Subject of the Nation's Divisions, a Thing he has long desir'd to do.

The Proposals shall be Publish'd in this Paper, as soon as it is brought to a Conclusion, Mean time any Gentlemen that are willing to Encourage such a Work, may let the Author know it by Letter, or such Method as they think fit.

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WHEREAS Many Persons, that some Months or perhaps Years past, had the Misfortune to get the first Degree of the Venereal Disease, and have still remaining upon them, a small Weakness, altho' the Malignity and other Symptoms of the aforesaid Distemper are perfectly overcome and eradicated; which Weakness is very dangerous, and if not perfectly stopt, certainly ruins the Constitution, and proves of dreadful Consequence to the unhappy Patients; and that it is very difficult to be entirely cur'd, and seldom is taken off by many of the Practitioners in the said Disease, (tho' Ingenious Men) the most eminent Physicians do allow. This is therefore to give Notice, that One of great Practice, and very large Experience, having some Years since found out admirable Medicines, that in a few Days always did, and assuredly ever will, without Delay, safely Cure and stop any such Weakness, &c. tho' of many Years standing, so as never to return again, has now for the Sake of those unfortunate Persons, that are fatigued with that troublesome and mischievous Disorder, and have spent perhaps many Pounds to get cur'd, but in vain, appointed the above-mention'd Excellent Medicines, establish'd, upon Reason, and always successful Experience, and which will absolutely compleat the Cure, so as not to break out again; to be sold only at Mr. Salkeld's, at the Blue Posts, next Door to Mr. Tonson's Printing House, in Earls Court in Bow Street, near Covent Garden — At a Guinea the Parcel seal'd up with a little Book of Directions; wherein are also set down plain Rules whereby any Person may certainly know

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(4)

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(1)

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